

**BURIEN BUSINESS AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP (BEDP)
STUDY SESSION**

Date: February 22, 2008

Time: 7-8:30 a.m.

Members Present: Harvey Aulgur, David Elliott, Bob Ewing, Geri Fain, Kevin Fitz, Michael Goldsmith, Jim Hughes, Karen Lautermilch, Mark Minium, Doug Moreland, Jane Voget

Excused Absentees: Mary Averett, Rick Cosgrave, Nancy Damon

Staff: Mike Martin, City Manager; Dick Loman, Economic Development Manager; Janet Stallman, Department Assistant, City Manager Office

Guests: Mayor Joan McGilton, Councilmembers Kathy Keene and Gordon Shaw, Patty Sader, Interim Director, Discover Burien

Call to Order: Meeting opened at 7:00 a.m. Kevin Fitz, Chair

Chair's Report

Kevin asked Geri Fain to mention the new Gates Foundation grant which was awarded in White Center. Geri gave a brief overview. She didn't have all the details today, but will bring more information to a future meeting.

City Manager Report

Mike mentioned that he had received a nice note from Speaker of the House, Frank Chopp. Three items that the Speaker's office said they would support as part of the Lora Lake settlement have been included in the House capital budget: \$500,000 for planning in the Northeast Redevelopment Area (NERA); \$1.5 million to help relocate the Highline West Seattle Mental Health facility from their present location to a location on Ambaum Blvd; and \$500,000 for two pilot projects for subsidized teacher housing for Highline School District and Yakima School District over the next three years are all included.

Mike mentioned that annexation has been taking most of his time over the last couple of weeks. Mayor McGilton and Mike Martin were called to Olympia to meet with Representatives Cody, Hasegawa and Nelson on Thursday, February 21 to discuss annexation with Seattle, SeaTac, and King County. The Council met on Wednesday, February 20 to formalize a consensus on what position the Mayor would communicate to the participants.

Mike asked Mayor McGilton to give a brief overview of the meeting. Mayor McGilton said that the purpose of the meeting appeared to be to request that Burien support Seattle's ask of \$3 million in HB1139. If Seattle got the \$3 million they wanted, Burien would get \$600,000 of that amount to make them whole. The Mayor told the meeting participants that Burien would like to seek resolution to annexation through a mediation process. Tim Ceis, Kurt

Triplett, and Dow Constantine all said they wanted to come to Burien's Council meeting on February 25, 2008, and give presentations to the full Council.

Q. If the Bill did go forward, how long would the \$600,000 last? **A.** It would go away after ten years.

Hotel Report

Consultant Richard Boustead was introduced. Richard explained the process by which he is doing his feasibility study. He has been speaking with many stakeholders in the community about their ideas for a hotel that would fit in Burien.

Richard explained the market research that he is currently conducting. He will be providing a written report to the City within a few weeks.

Q. Why is the City doing a feasibility study? Isn't the developer doing their own study?

A. The City is doing its own study for a couple of reasons, 1) in case this deal doesn't happen, we would be able to provide market information to a new prospect, and 2) more importantly, this project qualifies for a New Market Tax Credit, which is a way of making the project more attractive to potential investors. One of the conditions of this program is that there must be an independent feasibility study completed, other than by the developer. This feasibility study fulfills that condition.

Discover Burien Report

Patty Sader gave the report. Discover Burien is busy getting the annual dinner organized and ready. They are looking for auction items for their silent auction. Clean Sweep is coming up April 26th. This year's theme is "Clean and Green." There will be a focus on recycling.

The next social networking event sponsored by Discover Burien will be March 19th at El Dorado West, 6 – 8 PM.

We have given out fifty "Welcome Wagon" bags to new businesses, and we have five new members.

The Annual Discover Burien Silent Auction and City Awards Dinner will be held at the Karuna Yoga Studio in Olde Burien. If you wish to sponsor a table it would be \$200. Tickets are \$25/per person. They will be available through Discover Burien or at City Hall beginning March 3rd.

Interim Study Sessions Agenda – Bob Ewing

Doug Moreland, Kevin Fitz and I met with Mike Martin to plan our study session agendas. After the Council's meeting this week and our meeting with Mike, we have decided to table our annexation work until the political direction is made clear. We still do believe that capturing what the BEDP has seen over time in regard to annexation will still prove useful.

The agenda for the next three months at Study Sessions will be:

Ø NERA will be the topic for the second Friday of March – March 14.

- Ø Economic Development Strategy and review of the ED component of the Comprehensive Plan will be the topic for the second Friday in April – April 11.
- Ø Annexation will be the topic for the second Friday in May – May 9.

Mayor McGilton mentioned that several members of the Arts Commission are getting interested in developing an Aesthetic Burien Vision. This may have Economic Development implications. It seems like there may be some synergy between the two groups in working together toward what the future of Burien might look like. Bob suggested that this is a great idea in considering our natural place, the arts, and our ability to attract new businesses – to put it all together.

Bob asked for volunteers to put together the materials need for the Study Session on NERA. Dick Loman volunteered to pull together the information.

Economic Development Report

The Steering Committee of the Burien Wellness Cluster has formed three working subcommittees: Education (Grow Your Own Talent); Facilities (Growth); and Competitiveness (Promotion, image, attracting talent). Each subcommittee will begin creating their individual work programs at the next meeting on March 20.

A March 10 insert circular in the Seattle Times and Post Intelligencer will be rolling out the cluster concept. Burien will have 4 out of 16 pages in the circular.

Round the Table

Bob Ewing - Prosperity Partnership – March meeting – PSRC; networking activity

Doug Moreland – delighted to hear about the work on the hotel.

Michael Goldsmith – Dollar Store going in across the street; is this the highest and best use of the property? Wondering whether the City develops relationships with landlords to let them know what kind of tenants we'd like to attract.

Kevin Fitz – Mentioned that property is slowly turning over to better tenants and that it is a function of the market.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 a.m.